

ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario



XXIII 1
Winter 1998



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Winter 1998

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
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Incorporated in 1933 to preserve buildings and structures of architectural merit and places of natural beauty or interest

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**Victoria Jubilee Hall,
 Walkerton, prior to restoration.**

**Photo by Barry Schneider courtesy
 of Mary Robinson Ramsay**

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From the Editor



Marion Garland was a real trouper - an early champion of architectural preservation in this province, she

gave tirelessly of her time and energy. And with such enduring humour, such endearing stubbornness.

Outside of Port Hope, she was probably best known to the preservation community as the editor of *ACORN*. After the initial first two issues put together by Peter Stokes, Marion took on the fledgling Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Regional Newsletter in 1976. Over the next 12 years she made *ACORN* into what is today - the principal forum and bellwether of the Conservancy. The *ACORN* in your hands bears Marion's indelible stamp.

Marion was also famous for her fondness for four-letter words. Like the peremptory "Help!" with which she would often open her phone calls to culture ministry staff in Toronto. Marion's unmistakable voice would then launch into a description of the latest Port Hope heritage crisis.

As a result of one such call, I first met Marion in March of 1981. She was concerned about the fate of a magnificent but decaying house on the outskirts of Port Hope. At the time I was a fairly new conservation officer with the ministry, working mainly on the heritage easements program of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Since I had planned to be in the Port Hope area anyway, I arranged to meet her at her house and visit the property in question.

The following is taken from notes I made after this meeting. Note that I was mistaken about Marion's marital status - she later accused me of casting aspersions on the legitimacy of her children.

"Miss Garland is a fun lady: she has a sense of humour which manifests itself in witty and colourful

comments (like, as we were getting ready to leave her house: 'would anyone like to go upstairs to straighten their tie or powder their nose?'). She is also forthright in her observations and opinions of people, including some Ministry personnel."

To protect the guilty I won't go on to tell about our clandestine visit to a property whose owner was not there and how, at Marion's urging, I shamelessly "broke in" (well, actually, pushed open a door and walked in) to the house while Marion stood watch.

I've been a fan of Marion's ever since. She often called me "dearie," so I think she liked me too.

Cheers, Marion - this one's for you.

Dan Schneider

President's Message

Our 2nd annual fundraising dinner at the Arts and Letters Club was great fun. I congratulate everyone who attended, especially as it was one of those horrible November nights with hair-raising driving conditions. The evening was most enjoyable—from the silent auction to our well-known speaker, Eberhard Zeidler. We particularly appreciated hearing Peter Stokes' tribute to Anthony Adamson, a founding member and loyal supporter of the ACO. Many thanks to all those who helped with the organizing.

I was very saddened by the death of my friend and ACO colleague for many years, Marion Walker Garland. Over the years Marion made an enormous contribution to the ACO on the local Port Hope scene and at the provincial level. She was our *ACORN* Editor for 12 years. I know I speak for all members of the Conservancy in saying that Marion will be greatly missed.

It is a fact of life that we must raise funds in order to support our programs. We will be starting soon on our 1998 campaign, so please help us as much as you are able.

We are very busy at the ACO office. One of our members donated

a new fax machine, which is much appreciated. It makes our communications more efficient and the work load easier. We receive many, many calls about conservation matters and respond to them as best we can.

We have been working on our upcoming conference on historic masonry. Mary Glendinning, who is in charge of the conference program, has arranged an interesting day for Saturday, April 18th. This year we have changed the days around for the conference and the annual meeting. Last year it was commented that many people were unable to attend as papers were presented on a Friday. Therefore, we are having the ACO dinner and annual general members' meeting Friday evening with the conference all day Saturday. We will also have a walking and bus tour for ACO members on Sunday.

By the time you receive your *ACORN*, registration for the 1997/98 ACO workshop will have closed. I'll give you a report on "Raising Capital Funds to Support Heritage Conservation" at the AGM.

As you know, the Conservancy could not function without our volunteers. Let me take this opportunity to again express my heartfelt appreciation to all.

A.K. Sculthorpe

Council News

1997-98 WORKSHOP

Raising Capital Funds to Support Heritage Conservation, our third technical workshop, will appeal to volunteers in the heritage community who haven't professional or administrative staff for organizing capital fundraising campaigns.... This is how Paul Dilse, the ACO's Consulting Heritage Manager, describes this half-day seminar scheduled for February 28. Speakers include professionals Steve Thomas on direct-mail solicitation and David Reynolds on grantsmanship. Two successful ACO-backed projects will be presented by our own

members: Pat Malicki will explain how her group saved Walkerville Town Hall and Don Rungay will describe the fundraising drive that led to the restoration of the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope.

Conference '98

Masonry conservation is the theme of Conference '98, which will be held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting, April 17-19 in Toronto. Among other things, Toronto is

known for its older brick and brick veneer buildings. We are most fortunate to have Mary Glendinning of McGillivray-Architect as conference coordinator. (Ian McGillivray is a member of the ACO Advisory Board.) See the centre insert for details and registration form.

Arthur '98 Celebration

To celebrate our 65th birthday, the centenary of the birth of Prof. E. R. Arthur and the 30th anniversary of

the restoration of St. Lawrence Hall, ACO Past President Alec Keefer is organizing a conference on Arthur's work and, quite probably, an exhibit of his drawings for November of this year. It is expected that our Gala Dinner will be held in conjunction with these events, with other activities to fill out the weekend.

Margaret Goodbody

A Gala Occasion

On Saturday, November 1, 1997 representatives from our fellow heritage organizations joined loyal ACO members and their friends at the ACO's second annual Gala Fundraising Dinner. All braved vile weather and worse driving conditions to be there—the cheerful atmosphere and excellent food and service provided by Toronto's Arts & Letters Club were doubly welcome on such a night!

The Dinner was an opportunity to honour the ACO founder and eminent preservationist Anthony Adamson. We had hoped to have Tony with us, but unfortunately he was not well enough to attend. Peter Stokes spoke of Tony's many achievements and of some of his personal encounters with this wonderful man [see "A Tribute to Anthony Adamson" this page].

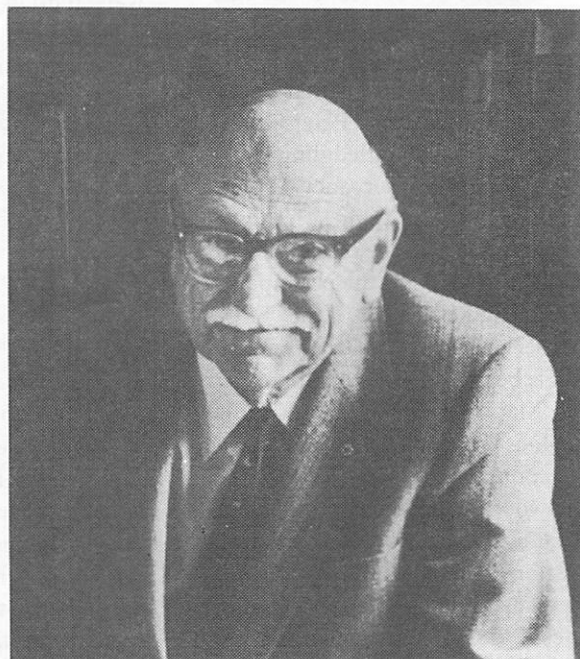


Pat Malicki and A.K. Sculthorpe inspect the Silent Auction display. Photo: Dan Schneider

Our guest speaker for the evening was the distinguished Toronto architect Eberhard Zeidler, who impressed us with his erudition and quiet, self-deprecating humour. Mr. Zeidler shared with us some of his "thoughts on architecture and urban planning" as we approach the 21st century [see excerpts from Mr. Zeidler's

remarks in this issue] and then showed slides of a number of his projects, including Canada Place in Vancouver, the Columbus Center in Baltimore, and the Hospital for Sick Children and the new National Trade Centre in Toronto.

Terry Foord nobly filled in for David Sculthorpe as master
(cont'd on page 6)



Anthony Adamson in 1983

A Tribute To Anthony Adamson

Remarks by Peter John Stokes at the ACO Fundraising Dinner, November 1, 1997

We have known Tony, as all his well-wishers call him, in many capacities, as a family friend, a teacher and professor, a supporter and mentor, and even as a partner in crime (for we saw him, even helped him, break into a house in the Seaway area so that it might be recorded by students from the U of T School of Architecture before its loss).

Anthony Adamson has had a fascinating and varied career, combining the vocations of architect, town planner, professor, and historical consultant in the conservation and restoration of old buildings. An officer of the Order of Canada, he has been honoured by Queen's University and the University of Windsor with an LL.D. Among many other awards he has received the Gabrielle Leger Medal from Heritage Canada.



Peter Stokes addressing the ACO Fundraising Dinner. Photo: Dan Schneider

Tony always approached his tasks with zest, knowledge, imagination and savvy, not without humour—a combination of talents that not only produced personal accomplishments but also encouraged the best effort and contribution of his colleagues and advisors.

Perhaps one of his greatest projects was Upper Canada Village where he served as the principal consultant and evolved the wonderful scheme which provided my own total immersion course in restoration. So often, thinking back to that time in the late 1950s and early 1960s, I wonder what made such a medley of characters accomplish the work, not without distinction: Tony himself had so much to do with it and seemed to drive others to do their best.

His humour comes out in his writing on historical architectural subjects, the books he wrote with Marion MacRae, *The Ancestral Roof*, *Hallowed Walls* and *Cornerstones of Order*. His turn of phrase is always a delight and even when forthright is

(cont'd on page 6)

Eberhard Zeidler's Address to the Fundraising Dinner (excerpts)

The concept of the split between mind and body [that began with Descartes] has lured us into a lifestyle that does not see life as a holistic endeavour, but as the pursuit of one part, for example economy, to the detriment of the others. ...

By attempting to continue to

develop one part into success, it leads through success to destruction.

It would be wrong to say that Modern architecture did not create beauty. It did: it opened a window to the exploration of new technologies and sought solutions to new functional requirements. Yet it did not give a full answer to the key question that architecture faced.

The problem with such a linear approach (the form follows function approach), based on a Positivist Philosophy, is that it is impossible to explain architecture with the logic of the spoken word alone because if that were to fully explain the architectural expression, it would no longer be necessary to translate it into a built form. As Isadora Duncan said, "If I could tell you what it meant, there would be no point in dancing it." We have to include the emotional, the body part, the unable-to-be spoken element as well. ...

Modern city planning took this limited philosophy and attempted to create a solution. The split of the city into residential areas, working areas, and entertainment areas resulted in developing the suburbs and created the necessity for living in the car to move between these areas. It destroyed the downtown shopping areas by creating the suburban mall and finally created the even further segregated super-warehouses, such as Walmart and the Price Club.

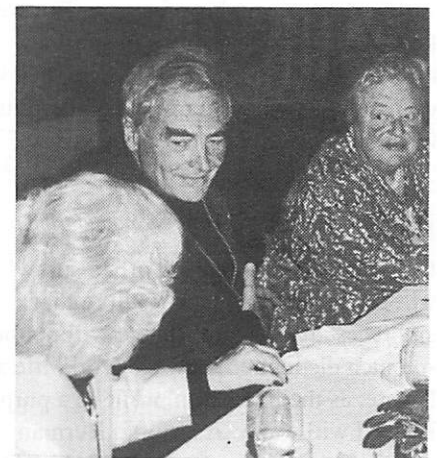
Modern city planning furthermore segregated architecture from urban planning. Architects no longer felt it necessary to respond to the *genius loci* of the city. It was more important to build an architectural masterpiece, isolated and glorious, than it was to dovetail a building within the urban texture. Buildings in the past had always done that, such as Balthasar Neumann's Bishop's Palace in Würzburg or Baron Haussmann's plan for Paris.

We are beginning to realize that this pursuit of the Cartesian paradigms not only ruins architecture and urban planning, but also human behaviour as well, leading not only to the stagnation of the human habitat, but to the destruction of the human spirit itself. We find this condition in

the growth of city quarters as well as in the development of industries; it is everywhere around us. It is the problem of pursuing a linear, Positivist Philosophy that attempts to achieve everything through rationalization. The mind is not an independent element that can live outside the body and suppress the other needs of humanity. This has led to the ethics of *Maxima* or 'Maximalization' that are destructive. It means to maximize that one part that is considered essential; to measure, for example, everything on its monetary value.

On the other hand the ethics of *Optima* or 'Optimalization', recognize the limits of cognitive control and attempt to optimize not one part, but all parts of the holistic structure which represents the value system of living entities.

To accept this new paradigm may seem to be a return to the time prior to Descartes, but in fact it is not, because the rational advances that have been made since his time are still valid and are respected. But what also must be respected are the unconscious emotional demands which now do not come from animistic behaviour or from other similar elements, but out of the unconscious awareness that is within us.



Eberhard Zeidler and A.K. Sculthorpe in conversation with Mrs. Zeidler.

Photo: Dan Schneider

The new paradigm is not opposed to scientific intellect, but only to the inability of it to locate itself to a larger context in which to see the world. It will be possible again to not only have a career but to have a life,

(cont'd on page 6)

(A Gala Occasion, cont'd from page 4)

of ceremonies and presided over the silent auction. (David was unable to attend because of business commitments; we are, however, grateful to him for a generous donation that has enabled us to replace our defunct fax machine with a new and better model.) At the end of the evening Terry presented President A.K. Sculthorpe with the first award of the Northumberland-Durham Society of Architects for her contribution to architecture in Northumberland County and Durham Region.

About 80 people attended the event which raised \$4,000. Congratulations to all who participated - our guests, speakers, volunteers, and silent auction donors and buyers. The Gala Fundraising Dinner has become a major highlight of the ACO year.

Margaret Goodbody

(A Tribute to Anthony Adamson, cont'd from p.4)

often amusingly to the point, like the time he was seeking draughtsmen for Upper Canada Village. When Howard Chapman reminded him he had lost already one such employee (yours truly) to the cause, Tony shot back "No! Somebody who can draw a double-hung window and shut-up!"

Tony regrets he cannot be with us in person tonight for his recovery is not sufficient to permit his presence. But we know he is here very much in spirit as always. We wish him well, hoping that we can continue, whenever occasion permits, to enjoy his warmhearted company.

(Eberhard Zeidler's Address, cont'd from p. 7)

the blights of suburbs and urban sprawl will be replaced by a city culture that embraces architecture. There will not be so much distinction between work, life and leisure, as the interest in profit as a purpose in itself will wane. As Morris Berman said in *The Reenchantment of the World*: "The planet simply cannot support the world of an ever-expanding Gross National Product." The Protestant work ethic, the spiritual support of our present way of life, will not be there when the economy needs it most in the 21st century. We must return, as the I Ching says, and "go down to the very foundations of life."

Marion Walker Garland 1908-1998

A true conservationist, Marion Walker Garland helped to preserve not only the architectural heritage of Ontario, but also the precision and flamboyant uses of the English tongue.

Mrs. Walker Garland, Editor Emeritus of *ACORN*, died at age 89 in Port Hope on January 8, 1998, leaving a gap in the lives of the hundreds who loved her for her unique and unforgettable personality. She was, one friend maintains, like a character written by P.G. Wodehouse.

According to Mrs. Alice King Sculthorpe, president of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Marion will be sorely missed on the architectural conservancy scene, both locally and provincially. "She was a most entertaining person and enlivened every meeting," Mrs. Sculthorpe says, remembering that Marion took her responsibilities on boards and committees very seriously, carrying out all her duties with great diligence.

In the heritage conservation field, Mrs. Walker Garland was a tireless leader. She was a founding member of the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, from 1976 to 1987 she was editor of *ACORN*, and she chaired the first Port Hope Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. She was also an active director of the Ganaraska Region Archives, Heritage Ganaraska Foundation and the East Durham Historical Society.

Marion loved to use language properly and often acerbically. As a staff member at Trinity College School in Port Hope, she taught remedial reading and other language skills to generations of grateful boys. Marion published an entertaining memoir of life at a private school *Sorry, Sir! I Mean M'am*, in 1993. Again showing leadership, she helped found the Port Hope Original Group (a writer's guild) and participated in the Community Advisory Board to the Port Hope Evening Guide.

Guidebooks called "Architectural Styles" and "Architectural Terms" were published by Marion Walker Garland during her busy years as editor of *ACORN*. Many people recall Marion in her living room, cutting and pasting articles she typed on her manual typewriter, and then racing back and forth to the local printer's.

Historic St. Mark's Anglican Church was a second home to Mrs. Garland. She was an active member of the congregation and for many years she led the Evening Guild in its various projects, fondly referring to the group as "ladies of the evening".

Marion at the bridge table, the potter's wheel and in the kitchen making her famous applesauce and pickled walnuts, are memories her friends will always have. Port Hope's "Grande Dame" will be remembered with love by her son John and daughter Pamela, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and countless others whose lives she touched in such a distinctive fashion.

Sue Stickley

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday, April 21, 1997

Bay of Quinte Yacht Club,
Belleville, Ontario

Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe, President, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed some 40 members of the Conservancy to the 64th Annual General Meeting of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Inc. Mrs. Sculthorpe extended heartfelt thanks to Quinte Branch President Dan Atkinson and his committee for their superb organization of the weekend's events, and congratulated Annual Conference chairperson Julia Beck on the excellent roster of speakers and the way in which they were grouped to complement each other and yet present different aspects of the same area of interest.

Minutes

The President asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the 1996 Annual General Meeting, which were circulated to members as part of the Winter 1997 issue of *ACORN*. It was moved by Mrs. Katherine Mills, seconded by Mrs. Edna Hudson, that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting be accepted as circulated. CARRIED.

Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes of the 1996 Annual General Meeting.

President's Report

The President reiterated her personal welcome to the members present and congratulations to Dan Atkinson, Julia Beck and the wonderful local committee for the outstanding success of the weekend's conference. She invited everyone to visit the ACO's Skinner-Jackson House in Camden East, which was open for viewing in the afternoon. Some upgrading of the house was deemed necessary in order to make the

property more marketable. A new heating system has been installed and an arrangement made with the tenant to repaint the exterior.

Mrs. Sculthorpe summarized some of the ACO's activities over the past year. She noted that, with the end of the government operating grant programme a real possibility, a major fund-raising initiative was instituted in 1996. The results were extremely gratifying and this process is being continued in 1997, with the main thrust of the current campaign to increase our database. In terms of other activities, the President reported that she sits on the Ontario Heritage Alliance Board which meets every three months to consider province-wide issues such as the inventory of registry office documents threatened with destruction. Alec Keefer has been working on two projects—the *Built to Last* video, which he has shown at OHS workshops, and a symposium and exhibition based on the work of Eric Arthur.

Mrs. Sculthorpe announced the resignation of *ACORN* editor Marg Rowell after many years of service, and expressed the ACO's great appreciation for the work she has done. The Publications Committee chair, Mary Angela Tucker, was pleased to report that Dan Schneider, a professional member of Ministry of Culture staff, has agreed to fill the position of editor.

The President concluded by thanking the members of the Executive Committee for their unfailing support, volunteers such as Catharine Ramsey who work tirelessly behind the scenes, Consulting Heritage Manager Paul Dilse for his dedication, and all members of the organization, without whom the ACO "would stop dead in its tracks."

Financial Report

The President thanked Ms. Diane McCormick who has filled the position of Treasurer on an interim basis for the past year. She announced that Mr. Chris Cuyllé, CMA, of Toronto has agreed to have his name put forward for the position of

Treasurer for 1997-1998. Copies of the Financial Statement to December 31, 1996, were distributed, and Mrs. Sculthorpe read a letter from Mr. Glen Tozer, CA, who has been advising on financial matters. Referring to the statement, Mr. Tozer noted that, while the figures for total receipts and disbursements are accurate, the allocation of items within the statement is not always correct. He therefore suggested this and other anomalies be corrected before the audit is carried out. Mrs. Sculthorpe called for a meeting of all Branch Treasurers with herself and Mr. Tozer, tentatively scheduled for June, and requested that the Branch Presidents confer with their treasurers to determine a suitable time. In answer to a query from Mr. Dan Atkinson, the Windsor Branch president, Mrs. Pat Malicki, explained that although there is a loss on paper in the 1996 statement for the sale of property, the final result was a profit. Mr. Nicholas Hill queried the figure of \$66,935 for Projects and Awards. It was explained that this included Town Centre Video costs of \$30,000, repayment of a loan from the Richardson Fund, a large donation to the Capitol Theatre by the Port Hope Branch and the loss sustained by the Cash Calendar project.

It was moved by Ms Diane McCormick, seconded by Mr. Rob Hamilton, that the Financial Statement to December 31, 1996, be approved. CARRIED. Mr. Atkinson requested that the branch record sheets of receipts and disbursements be sent out to the branches. Mrs. Sculthorpe agreed to do so.

The proposed Budget for 1997 was presented by Treasurer Diane McCormick. Details of projected expenditures were explained by the President and the Consulting Heritage Manager, Mr. Paul Dilse. Mr. Dilse noted that, based on last year's fund-raising campaign, we anticipate receiving \$27,000 from previous donors and, in addition, \$11,000 from our new 10,000 letter campaign. We are being advised on this by the consulting firm of Genovese &

Vanderhoof. A question regarding the investment of some of our restricted funds in T-bills was referred to the planned Treasurers' meeting.

It was moved by Ms. Diane McCormick, seconded by Mr. David Bentley, that the 1997 Budget be approved. CARRIED.

Amendments to the By-law

Mrs. Julia Beck read the amendment to Section 10 as proposed by Ontario Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and explained the rationale behind it, being the difficulty of securing an experienced member for the position of president. It was then moved by Mrs. Beck, seconded by Mrs. Mary Jones, that the proposed amendment to Section 10 of the ACO Bylaw, of which members received notice in the Winter edition of *ACORN*, be approved. Mr. Alan Beck, stating that he could see no reason to extend the term of office from six to eight years, moved that the motion be tabled, seconded by Rob Hamilton. This motion was defeated by a vote of 22 against, 13 in favour and 4 abstentions. The original motion was then CARRIED by a vote of 24 in favour, 11 opposed and 4 abstentions.

Mrs. Beck then read the amendment to Section 22, which deals with classes of membership. It was moved by Mrs. Beck, seconded by Mr. Terry Foord, that the proposed amendment to Section 22 be approved. It was moved by Mrs. Edna Hudson, seconded by Mr. Peter Stokes, that the wording with regard to Ontario Members be changed from "Ontario Member without Branch Affiliation is a member who is admitted to membership on application to head office." to "A person who wishes to become a member but without branch affiliation may become an Ontario Member by application to a branch or to the head office." CARRIED. The original motion, as amended, was then voted on and CARRIED, with one abstention.

Finally, Mrs. Beck noted that part 2 of the proposed amendment to Section 10 was unnecessary, since that change to the By-law had been approved previously.

Mr. Dan Schneider moved, seconded by Mrs. Jan Graybiel, that a committee be appointed to review By-law No. 1. CARRIED.

Ms. Alison Brown agreed to serve on this committee with Mr. Schneider, who is a lawyer. Mr. Hamilton requested that all branches be sent a copy of the By-law in its present form and the President agreed to do so.

Report of the Consulting Heritage Manager

Mr. Dilse presented the highlights of his report for the year ended December 31, 1996. With regard to the Advisory Board, 12 projects were completed, five projects assigned, and 24 telephone inquiries handled as well as correspondence and meetings. A management plan is being prepared for Ruthven Park, Cayuga, an initiative which has been urged for some time by our Advisory Board member Tony Butler and previously by Peter Stokes. Donations of \$1,800 were received and 11 new Board members appointed. In terms of other activities, Mr. Dilse conducted a workshop, "Documentation at Every Stage of a Heritage Conservation Project," which realized a net revenue of \$1,068.94. Provincial and branch publications were sold from head office, with sales amounting to \$1,288.08. The 1997 direct-mail fund-raising campaign has added 10,000 letters to reach beyond our immediate constituency and increase our database. In addition to his professional duties, Mr. Dilse contributed a great number of volunteer hours to the ACO. He concluded his report with a financial summary: salary and program costs for 1996 were \$28,831.39; revenue brought in through projects in which he had major involvement amounted to \$41,225.40; net gain by the ACO was \$12,394.01.

Mrs. Sculthorpe thanked Mr. Dilse for his continued dedication to the ACO. She expressed regret that Mr. Patrick Coles, chair of the Advisory Board, was not able to be present.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Mr. Bill Moffet, Chair, presented the proposed slate of Officers and Members-at-Large for 1997-1998, as follows:

President	Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe
Sr. Vice-President	Mrs. Anne McKillop
Vice-President	Ms. Mary Angela Tucker
Vice-President	Mr. Terry Foord
Treasurer	Mr. Chris Cullye
Secretary	Mrs. Margaret Goodbody
Past President	Mr. Alec Keefer
Members-at-Large:	

Mrs. Shirley Siegwart Ayer
Mrs. Julia Beck
Mr. Robert Fair
Mrs. Pat Malicki
Ms. Diane McCormick
Mrs. Joann McLennan
Mrs. Pat Rosebrugh
Ms. Kathy Smith

As there were no further nominations from the floor, it was moved by Mr. Paul Jones, seconded by Mrs. Cathy Atkinson, that the nominations be closed. CARRIED. It was then moved by Mr. Moffet, seconded by Mr. David Bentley, that the proposed slate of officers for 1997-1998 be approved. CARRIED. The above-named individuals will serve for the ensuing year, each to serve until his or her respective successor shall be elected and qualify. Mrs. Beck noted that her 8-year term ends in November, 1997.

It was moved by Mr. Peter Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Jan Graybiel, that this Annual General Meeting of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. approve the actions of the Provincial Council for the year 1996/1997. CARRIED.

Other Business

Mr. Beck put forward a notice of motion that one month before the AGM every member should receive the report of the Nominating Committee and the Financial Report. The President replied that all available information is printed in the Winter issue of *ACORN*, which we endeavour to send out a month ahead of the AGM. Unfortunately, since this is a volunteer organization, it is very difficult to have certain reports completed in time.

Appointment of Auditors

It was moved by Mrs. Jan Graybiel, seconded by Mrs. Joann McLennan, that the firm of Lynch, Rutherford & Tozer be appointed auditors for the coming year, and that Council be authorized to fix their remuneration. CARRIED.

Branch Reports

Reports were received from the Windsor, London, Cambridge, Toronto, Quinte and Port Hope branches.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Margaret Huddinott.

Margaret Goodbody,
Secretary

Branch Reports

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

Heritage Cambridge Board members have been very productive! Our walking tour brochures of the various areas of Cambridge are continuing to be reprinted. Hespeler and Galt were released last year; the Blair tour is at the printer's; and the Preston and Driving/Cycling Tours are in the works. Walking tour brochures are available for sale at Southwork's antique market, Book Express at the Cambridge Centre and the Chamber of Commerce. The Cambridge Mills District used to be a walking tour but this area is missing so many buildings now that it has been incorporated into the Driving Tour. Looking for a nice Sunday drive? Come to Cambridge!

The City of Cambridge has its work cut out for it. As a result of the Blair Area Special Study, the Blair Heritage Conservation District Study will be undertaken in 1998. To add to this workload, West Galt area is in crisis. A site plan was filed for 45 Blair Road proposing the construction of up to 35 units in the form of

townhomes, with the potential to add an apartment building later on. The residents of this lovely, unique residential area, called Dickson Hill, have formed a neighbourhood preservation association. They wish to severely limit new growth and infill housing in this area that was built around the turn of the century, and to prevent the defacing of the brow of the hill that overlooks downtown Galt and the Grand River.

This group is looking for support to carry out a Heritage Conservation District Study as soon as possible. Designation of Dickson Hill would allow some control over new development—building guidelines, density control, etc. Heritage Cambridge has been working closely with LACAC to assess the feasibility of obtaining funding to start this project immediately (even if there is no room in the City's budget for 1998). These residents are very aware of the importance of the heritage aspects of Dickson Hill to the rest of the City. The beautiful grand old homes, with mature trees lining the streets, drive laneways, Edwardian street lamps and absence of overhead wires, make this area picturesque in any season. We'll keep you posted!

The oldest operating arena in Canada had its grand re-opening in November, 1997. Galt Arena Gardens was designated and restored to its former glory and Cambridge residents were treated to a show of Cambridge talent on ice over a weekend, including hockey games and figure skating exhibitions. Next door, Soper Park was given a facelift to complete the success story of this previously rundown area.

With the annual Heritage House Tour approaching in April, Heritage Cambridge will be busy planning more projects that are funded by this wonderful event. Many thanks to Sheila O'Donovan, Chair of the House Tour Committee, and to all her hardworking and efficient committee members. Get your tickets early—last year the Tour was sold out!

Kathryn McGarry

LONDON REGION

Beaverbrook Cottage

One of the roles of the ACO London Region Branch is to support LACH (the London Advisory Committee on Heritage) in protecting important historical or heritage buildings in the London area. The Ontario Cottage at 642 Beaverbrook Avenue in the west part of London is a case in point.



642 Beaverbrook Avenue, London.
Photo: Alison Brown

The house is the only known remaining example in the city of a cottage originally built on a gentleman's park lot. With an estimated date of 1845, it is very early for London. The building has outstanding proportions and detailing and is in excellent condition. All windows are original six-over-six with very narrow muntin bars and original shutters. The central peaked gable has scrolled bargeboards and is unusual because it is windowless. Also rare is the Flemish bond brickwork, indicating that the wall is at least two bricks deep. The house is currently listed as a Priority 1 on the City of London's Inventory of Heritage Resources, and is only one of five pre-1860 cottages within the pre-1992 boundaries of London.

The several acre site on which the house sits and the surrounding lands were zoned for residential purposes several years ago. Over the last few years, a number of the outbuildings from the property have been relocated to Fanshawe Pioneer Village north of London—the result being the loss of integrity of the park-like setting. For these reasons and the fact that the property has been vacant for a number of years, the developers

proposed townhouses for the site including demolition of the house.

When the City realized what was happening, discussions involving the City, the developers, LACH, the Oxford Park Residents' Association, and the ACO took place about protecting the house because of its Priority 1 status and because of the importance of its remaining on the original site. Two propositions were considered: propose designation; or try and integrate the structure into the development. When neither solution was deemed acceptable—designation of the cottage would probably lead ultimately to its demolition; and the economically planned two storey town house development would not accommodate the building—the developers (to their credit) offered to put the cottage on sleepers and move it to adjacent lands just off the site. While protecting it from vandalism, etc., they would give the house to the City who could sell it for \$1 to a suitable buyer who would relocate it.

Many questions were raised throughout this whole process including the perpetual 11th hour dilemma concerning designation of a heritage structure when there is strong chance that it will be demolished or radically altered. The integration of existing heritage buildings into a proposed development was also a major issue in this case. These particular developers have in other parts of the City attempted to integrate the townhouse development with the existing urban fabric by using some of the surrounding Victorian architectural vocabulary of gables, projecting bays and decorated fish scale siding on their facades.

Unfortunately, even though there were some one-story developments proposed for the Beaverbrook site, the developers could not or would not integrate this particular house into this development. This does not bode well for the future of other historic structures that do not "integrate" well or are not "economical."

What is clear is that both sides may have to compromise to come up with an acceptable solution. Despite

the fact that a way could not be found to keep this house on its original site, it has been protected through the joint interventions of LACH, the City, the Residents Association, the ACO—and the developers.

Program Notes

We have been making efforts to continue to improve our program for our membership. The fall program included a joint panel all-candidates meeting for the municipal elections with the London Middlesex Historical Society. The question put to candidates was: "If elected, what are your priorities for culture, heritage, and downtown redevelopment?"

The next event was a successful joint presentation with the London Society of Architects on issues of adaptive re-use entitled, "Adapting Attitudes: Renewing, Re-Using, Recycling Buildings." We invited as guest speakers architects Carlos Ventin, well-known in Ontario for his restoration work on the Legislative Building at Queen's Park and the Old City Hall in Toronto among many; John Nicholson, principal of Malhotra Nicholson Architects Inc. in London, responsible for the Market Tower, the UWO Research Park and Palace Theater renovations; and David Travers-Gillespie who is responsible for the conversion of a four-room school house into the Memorial Funeral Home.

Adaptive re-use is not a new idea but is apropos as we deal with issues in rebuilding the downtown. One point that was raised was that all three levels of government need to address taxation and economic reintegration.

We also had a good turnout of around 25 people for the October neighbourhood walk led by Julia Beck. This year the walk was in Byron, a small village located at the west end of Springbank Park along the edge of the Thames River. Byron started its life as Hall's Mills in an area surrounded by farmland. It was annexed to the City of London in 1961 and redeveloped heavily at that time. A number of the original farm and mill houses still survive and are

in excellent condition. We were able to see the remains of the foundations of the original mill, now in private hands.

In June 1998 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the annual Geranium Walk we are hoping to have our tour of fine homes in the historic Woodfield area of London.

Alison Brown

NORTH WATERLOO

Seagram Museum Closes, but City Steps in to Preserve Site

In a previous issue of *ACORN* (Fall 1993), we reported that a disastrous fire had destroyed the old Seagram distillery building. Of the five remaining heritage buildings, the boiler building was demolished, and the Seagram office building, itself originally a foundry, and the old cooperage were severed and sold, leaving only two 19th century barrel warehouses on the site. Seagrams and the City of Waterloo had made an agreement to retain the warehouses for a period of four years.

On an adjacent site the Seagram Museum had previously been created from an 1878 restored barrel warehouse. The museum had a world-wide reputation for excellence with rotating and permanent exhibits relating to the distilling and wine industry. Of particular interest were some jars and bottles that dated to biblical times. A fine collection of cooper's tools were displayed as well as a Pierce-Arrow truck loaded with whiskey barrels. The archives housed many interesting documents that pertained to the distilling business, the history of the Seagram family and the growth of Waterloo.

All this changed in early 1997 when Seagrams announced the closing of the museum due to falling attendance. The thirteen year history of the museum came to an end in late March. As for the future of the property, a number of possible uses were talked about including a multiscreen Cineplex-Odeon theatre and a townhouse and office complex.

Since the artifacts in the museum would have to be disposed of, they were offered to other museums. It appears the bulk of the collection will go to the City of Waterloo, the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University and Brock University. The city's portion of the collection, about twenty percent, is concerned with the Waterloo plant and the history of Waterloo. Some of the items will be placed in the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery and others that do not require strict environmental controls could be housed in the replica of Abraham Erb's 1816 grist mill.

Very shortly after the announced closing, the City of Waterloo began negotiations with Seagrams for the purchase of the museum and the 11.37 acre site. In late July the city announced it had a tentative deal to purchase all the lands and remaining buildings. At the same time it was announced that the city had made a lease arrangement with Waterloo Maple, a software company, which would use the entire museum building for its world-wide headquarters. Council gave its unanimous approval for the purchase and the deal closed on December 1, 1997.

As for the two old barrel warehouses, the City of Waterloo and the LACAC are committed to doing everything possible to preserve them. Hopefully an innovative use for the structures can be found. The city has had many inquiries about the lands and part of the site will be developed as townhouse units.

The city is to be commended for taking such a bold step in acquiring the property, thereby controlling the preservation and future development of this Waterloo landmark.

Marg Rowell

PORT HOPE

We were all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Marion Garland early in January. Until recently one of the Branch's most active members, she

will be greatly missed. [See "Marion Walker Garland 1908-1998" in this issue.]

On a happier note, and one that would have pleased Marion, we are delighted to report that membership of the Port Hope Branch has now topped the 200 mark.

Many years of hard work are coming to fruition with the designation of Walton Street. The Port Hope Branch has been a strong supporter of the LACAC project for a Downtown Port Hope Heritage Conservation District. Designation of the district under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* will help preserve the ambiance and architectural quality of our all-important main street into the next millennium.

The October house tour, now the oldest, largest and arguably the most successful house tour in Canada, raised over \$20,000. For our local branch newsletter, "ACO Matters," local architect Phillip Carter wrote a personal diary of the house tour. The diary concludes with the following entry.

Saturday Oct. 4 - Cocktail Hour
Off to a cocktail party at Homewood hosted by Peter Brown, one of the many "apres parties" going on in town. To end it on the grand front porch of this superb house is a treat.

As I sip my cocktail, what strikes me about the tour is the ability of all the owners of these older houses to make them liveable for their modern lifestyle. These are not stuffy museum pieces, but lived-in houses displaying the personality and idiosyncrasies of their owners (albeit a little neater than I suspect they are normally). I note that the visitors are often as interested in the modern kitchens as with the older parts of the houses. People seem fascinated to learn how to mix old and new such that these houses can continue to support our new lifestyles. These houses offer excellent lessons on this point.

My hat is off (not a usual occurrence) to all the owners who generously let us into their houses and to all the ACO members who made this House Tour a great success.

QUINTE

Over the summer and fall our Branch has presented its ongoing series of third Sunday walking tours as follows.

Cannifton - Corbyville - May 18th

On a fine spring day our group of 50 were taken on a tour of an often overlooked village to view some of the older and better examples of stone buildings in the Belleville area. The real treasure was the opportunity afforded us to visit the Chambers' home on River Road. This house is an outstanding two-storey stone house built in the 1870's, one of the best preserved examples in the area, and one of which the owners are deservedly proud. We were afforded the opportunity to tour the house, in spite of the fact that Donna and David Chambers had only recently returned from Mexico and were still in the process of unpacking!

Another highlight of the walk was the opportunity to speak to a retired Corby Distillery worker, Bill Chamberlain, who provided us with some insights as to the size and nature of the distillery operation.

Milford - Black Creek - June 15th

This was the second tour arranged by member Doug Parker and included tours of the interiors of three homes, a rare but very much appreciated treat.

Our group of over 60 people started in Milford, at the head of the old millpond, proceeded to the Mount Tabor Playhouse and then on to five residential locations. One of the unique aspects of this walk was that, in two cases, the houses were architecturally designed and built fairly recently. They offered an interesting contrast to our normal fare and proved to be good examples of how to take advantage of the natural terrain and to maximize the use of available space.

Glenwood Cemetery - July 20th

Our leader was another member, Margaret Haylock-Capon, assisted by her husband Alan. While a number of tours have been given in Glenwood in recent years, ours focused on the

architectural aspects of the cemetery and the historical importance of some of the earlier gravestones. The tour attracted some 45 people and the weather cooperated with a sunny but not too warm day. Margaret gave us quite a workout as we covered most of the cemetery grounds. There are no flat parts on the property - it is very hilly and thus presented quite a challenge to our intrepid group. The walk finished at Macauley House where the museum kindly provided us with refreshments.

Port Hope - August 17th

This tour was a coordinated effort between our Branch and the ACO Port Hope Branch. The walk was attended by 40 people and was led by Terry Foord and Bob Sculthorpe, who took us on a tour of the main street, Walton, and the residential area along King Street. The downtown area is full of architecturally significant buildings and should be held up as an example to some of our local municipalities of how to preserve a community's downtown. The tour highlight was a visit to the recently restored Capitol Theatre, certainly an inspiration to those involved in the Regent Theatre project.

The walk concluded with a hike up the east hill of the Ganaraska valley to tour King Street. This section is not generally known to most visitors to Port Hope so it was a pleasant surprise to discover an area with a wide variety of residential architecture, including the famous Bluestone House, home of the Rumgays of *Century Home* fame.

Gananoque - September 21st

We were once again fortunate to have the services of a local expert, John Nalon, president of the Gananoque Historical Society. The village of Gananoque was chosen for a walk because it contains a variety of interesting buildings and we are trying to visit as wide a range of locales as possible. In spite of the distance, 24 members made the trip to the town billed as "The Gateway to The Thousand Islands."

Our tour started at the beautiful Gananoque Inn and proceeded along several of the surrounding residential streets, including Stone Street with its fine homes and several churches, before emerging into the downtown core. Some of the buildings seen were the old Bank of Toronto (c.1909) and the Town Hall, originally built about 1831 as a house by the Hon. John McDonald. We crossed the Gananoque River to see some early industrial sites before coming back in a full circle to the Inn. Along the way, John provided us with numerous historical details and some interesting background stories on the development of the town.

Dan Atkinson

SOUTH BRUCE-GREY

New Life for Victoria Jubilee Hall

Victoria Jubilee Hall is a High Victorian structure, situated in the downtown area of Walkerton. [See cover photo.] For the greater part of the 20th century, it was the municipal centre and public hall for the County Town of Bruce.

The Hall was built to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. It was designed by A.R. Dennison of Toronto, who served as an apprentice to John G. Howard, the foremost architect in Ontario during the first half of the nineteenth century. The cornerstone was laid in 1897.

The brick and fieldstone edifice has eight different floor levels. Originally, the lowest level was used for a farmers' market, while the top floor provided living quarters for the Ferguson family. R.B. Ferguson, and later his son Jack, was the caretaker for the building, and also chief of police for the town. The police office was in the hall, and the farmers' market later became the fire hall. Both of these have since moved.

The town clerk's office was in Victoria Jubilee Hall until November 1996, when the municipal council of

the time moved the town offices to rental quarters.

One of the distinctive features of the hall is its bell tower and cupola, which contained a large bell purchased by the townsfolk in 1870. In 1897 the bell was hung in the tower of Victoria Jubilee Hall, where it rang several times a day for years. A short ring at ten minutes to seven each morning warned factory workers that work time was near; a longer ring at 7:00 a.m. signalled the beginning of work; and then the bell rang at 12 noon, 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The latter was intended as a curfew signal for children.

Probably the most remarkable feature of Victoria Jubilee Hall is its Opera Hall, an elegant theatre seating approximately 300 people. The acoustics are remarkable, and have been lauded by many top Canadian performers such as Liona Boyd, Valdy, Peter Appleyard and Moe Koffman.

In November 1979, realizing the importance of Victoria Jubilee Hall, the Municipal Council of Walkerton passed a bylaw designating the property under the *Ontario Heritage Act* as being of architectural and historical value. More recently, the building gained even greater historical significance when a drawing of the Hall by noted Canadian artist David Milne was discovered near Paisley. It was probably made while Milne was attending high school in Walkerton.

In April 1997, Council resolved to remove the heritage designation and demolish Victoria Jubilee Hall, if it could not be sold within 60 days.

In June 1997, working with the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, a group of local residents made an offer to purchase the building for the use of the larger community. The offer of \$1 was accepted.

Since that time, we have been very busy! After officially forming the South Bruce-Grey Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, we organized to get the Victoria Jubilee Hall Project underway. We felt that after the two-year municipal brouhaha over the future of the Hall,

it was important for our group to get off to a very positive beginning. We wanted to show people that although some roof repairs were necessary, the building itself was perfectly sound. As a result, we decided to hold an open-house on September 20th, just five days after taking possession of the building.

Volunteers vacuumed, dusted, scrubbed and decorated as we prepared for the Centennial Celebration of Victoria Jubilee Hall. The day began with a parade in which the local Legion pipe band and colour party led the way for "Queen Victoria" in a horse-drawn carriage. The elderly "Queen" made a fine speech from the steps of the Hall to the many people who had gathered for the event.

The assembled crowd was then invited inside the building, where they were able to look around, inspect a display of historic photographs and newspaper clippings, listen to local musicians perform in the Opera Hall, and sip tea with the "Queen" in a tea room created for the occasion. We offered Victoria Jubilee Hall T-shirts and notepaper for sale, as well as some historic maps of Bruce County which had been donated for fund-raising purposes.

The day was a great success. Since then, our fund-raising has begun in earnest, and we have also been approved for a Heritage Fund grant from the town, as well as an infrastructure grant which had been given to the town a few years ago, specifically for repairs to the roof.

Construction work began in the middle of October. The new roof supports and roof insulation are in, and a support pad has been created for the foundation of the bell tower. The latter has been constructed so that an appropriate base will be ready for an elevator, when we are able to install one. The Opera Hall ceiling, which was damaged, has been replaced, and at the time of writing work was underway on the roof. We couldn't afford to replace the 100-year-old, delaminated slate at this time, and so have opted to use charcoal-coloured,

ribbed steel.

Our first tenant is scheduled to move in at the beginning of December; our first public concert is scheduled for December 7th; and a couple of organizations have already asked to hold their meetings in the building. Thus begins the new life of Victoria Jubilee Hall, as it becomes an integral part of the community once more.

Meanwhile, the South Bruce-Grey Branch of ACO has had enquiries from Markdale, where a group of people are working to save their old firehall. The "script" emanating from the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce and interested citizens is reminiscent of the experience in Walkerton.

The "firehall group" have had preliminary feasibility and structural studies done on the old building, and are creating a business plan. Whether or not they will be allowed to purchase the building remains to be seen.

And so we go into our snowiest time of the year, with at least one historic building in Bruce and Grey Counties better able to withstand the elements, thanks to help from the ACO, and a lot of hard work from many, many caring citizens. Perhaps by this time next year we will be able to celebrate another success!

Mary Robinson Ramsay

TORONTO REGION BRANCH (TRAC)

A fall program of walks and talks was enjoyed. There was much interest in a tour of Osgoode Hall, a wonderful reminder of our historic past, with the accretions resulting from many decades of service. A week later we heard a talk from Jill Taylor, the architect doing the most recent renovations and restoration. She spoke of the building as a repository of collective memory, where we can see through the eyes of those who came before us, and understand what they understood.

In historic structures like Osgoode Hall, the contribution of the worker is also apparent: his love and understanding of his materials, his responsibility as part of an important cultural enterprise. The building is proof of the vision, industry and artistry of those who were here before us; its materials are the resources of the country then available. There are layers of history in such old buildings and a real continuity of thinking is necessary for successful restoration work.

The architects Taylor/Hazell were originally called in to do a mechanical and electrical retrofit and master plan for Osgoode Hall; in their evaluation



The Confederation Life building, Richmond St., Toronto

of the building they found other far more serious problems. It was fortunate that the Province called in an architectural firm with heritage experience to undertake this ongoing work.

TRAC advocacy activities continue. We are gratified to hear the Maple Leafs talking of places other than Union Station for their stadium, and applaud them for it. We are also happy that no one else is talking about building at Union Station.

We have an Ontario Municipal Board case pending concerning the "heritage program" touted by those who want to demolish the old engine house at West Toronto Junction.

It is not yet clear how the new amalgamated City of Toronto will deal with planning - all we know for certain is that it will be different. While times of great political change

are discomfiting, they hold the promise of new structures and approaches, and we can participate in their formation. For the time being the new city comprises six independent LACAC functions, each differently organized.

Our new publication, *The Romanesque Head Office*, is now available. 128 pages in length, the book details the story of the building of the Confederation Life head office on Richmond Street in Toronto. The building design was the outcome of a competition won by the architectural firm of Knox, Elliot and Jarvis. The story of the construction is told here for the first time, including the reasons for the architects' departure for Chicago before the building was complete. The story continues with later modifications to the building, and its redevelopment more than a

decade ago. There will be a book launch and public displays in the coming year.

We are able to pursue this publishing venture as the result of the success of our previous book, *Kingsway Park*. Production and marketing of *Kingsway Park* was much helped by a partnership with Heritage Etobicoke. Both books are the outcome of years of painstaking research and recording. We hope to continue to build on these successes.

To order *The Romanesque Head Office*, mail a cheque for \$34.95 to: Toronto Region Architectural Conservancy
P.O. Box 7162, Station A
Toronto, ON
M5W 1X8

Edna Hudson

WINDSOR BRANCH

The Walkerville Town Hall has now officially been transformed into a commercial art gallery and office space, and Glengarda is still standing.

On October 21, 1997, the

Walkerville Town Hall (aka the Barclay Building) was officially opened to the public with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by a wine and cheese reception. The Mayor and several City Councillors were in attendance, along with members of the City administration, Windsor Branch executive and members, as well as several people who donated their time and money towards the move of the building two and a half years ago. It was a happy day for all of us.

The Town Hall has been beautifully restored on its new site and the interior has been restored as well - thankfully the original architects' drawings were available.

The saga of Glengarda, the former Ursuline Convent, continues.... We had thought that a deal had been worked out between the developer and the City, which would not have involved designation. However, that fell through at the end of Septem-

(the issue was delayed because of the municipal election), we had flyers delivered to approximately 1,000 residents in the Glengarda area, as well as a mailing to known supporters. In the flyer, we asked everyone to write or phone the Mayor and City

Councillors to let them know how they felt. Glengarda was designated December 8.

The developer again requested a demolition permit, but Council accepted WACAC's report that all demolition permit requests be denied. On December 15, the demolition permit application was formally refused. Under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, this means that the developer cannot demolish the building

for 180 days. We are working on alternate proposals for the site and have presented a research document to one possible user.

Here's hoping the new year will bring more good news for Glengarda.

Pat Malicki



Walkerville Town Hall, Windsor, on moving day. Photo: Pat Malicki

ber and the developer requested a demolition permit. At that time, the Windsor LACAC (known as WACAC) and ourselves pushed for designation and City Council approved a Notice of Intention to Designate under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. During the following six weeks

News from and about ACO Members

[Editor's note: This is a new section featuring news and information from and about individual Conservancy members. ACORN welcomes submissions from our readers.]

STANDING ROOM ONLY AT CAMBRIDGE ALL- CANDIDATES MEETING

After years of sitting on various committees, I decided I was wasting time, the availability of which was decreasing each year. This was especially true when it came to the heritage of our community. It seemed that every meeting I attended, whether at the committee level or political level, all participants seemed to feel that "the others" were the enemy. My question became, not how did it come to this, but rather: if this doesn't change soon, what will happen to the heritage of all communities in this country? It became apparent that politicians were not that well versed on the subject. Because of this, whenever the issue came before them, they could hardly wait to shove it back in the closet. Some even became angry through their embarrassment and it seemed that this anger was taken out on our buildings.

Education seemed to be the key word. The municipal election in November provided the perfect opportunity to bring everyone together. Candidates could be polled as to their opinions and the public could show how important heritage concerns were to them. Notification was sent to all participants weeks in advance so that other debates would not be set for that evening. Council chambers were rented, allowing for a psychological feeling of comfort for candidates. The media were all notified well in advance of the evening. We wanted to make sure that such an historical event was on record. Why not cover history as it happens?

One of the best decisions we made was to have a non-combative format. This was achieved by setting up "round robin" groups so that conversations could be informal. We

had 21 candidates attend the meeting and about 150 members of the public! The candidates were split into five groups according to the offices for which they were running. Mayoral candidates were not put in a group with each other, ward one candidates were not with each other and so on. This avoided grandstanding by any one individual or arguing and accusations between opponents. It also prevented the discussion from going off topic.

A slide show had been put together of historical buildings and other points of interest in the community such as the historical streetlights which were saved. Parking lots were shown as well as buildings which have been put to new uses today. The theme was "the good, the bad and the ugly." Our point was made.

There were a number of submitted questions, sent by people or groups who could not be in attendance. Including those from within the group, there were 40 questions that evening, unheard of in any political debate or meeting. With standing room only, it was obvious that there wouldn't be enough time to answer all the questions, but everyone involved did their best. The space had been rented until 9:00, but at 10:00 it was still full and we had to shut the lights off to make people leave.

Feedback afterwards confirmed that our effort to try and educate the candidates *before* they are elected was a giant step forward for the preservation cause. Candidates had the opportunity to tell the voters about where their hands are tied. Perhaps we can now work together to untie those knots before our history is choked into non-existence. By making it an election issue, we showed politicians that heritage is important in our community, and not just to a small group.

Jan Kadar

ACO member Djénane Mackellar Lemmon died January 3, 1998. Throughout her long life she lived in many places, including Toronto, the Philippines and Richmond, Virginia. Since 1919 she summered at Shanty Bay, Ontario, and, after a long career teaching in Richmond's inner-city schools, retired to Barrie in the mid-1980s.

With her wide range of interests, Djénane was active in organizations such as the MacLaren Art Centre, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Ontario Historical Society and a list of others too long to mention. She also devoted time to her life-long passion of documenting the architecture of Barrie and Simcoe County. Her collection of photographs and sketches, which includes documentation of structures that have not stood for 70 years, is second to none. To local historians and collectors, Djénane was a mentor in the fields of architecture, Simcoe County families, artifacts and collectibles.

The following ACO members were the recipients of the Ontario Heritage Foundation's Heritage Community Recognition Program awards:

City of Brantford - Michael Keefe
City of Windsor - Pat Malicki
City of Belleville - Lois Foster
Township of Hope - Alice King
Sculthorpe
Town of Port Hope - Donald Rumgay

In London Anne McKillop was named in the Mayor's Honours List for 1997 for her contribution to heritage conservation in London.

A.K. Sculthorpe was also the recipient of the first award of the Northumberland-Durham Society of Architects and the Ontario Association of Architects for her contribution to architecture in Northumberland County and Durham Region.

The Conservation of Masonry Buildings & Structures in Ontario

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario's Annual Conference

April 18 and 19, Toronto, Ontario

To be Preceded by the Annual General Meeting, April 17

Location: Swansea Town Hall Community Centre, 95 Lavinia Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Date/Time: Saturday, April 18 — 9:00 a.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Registration: Friday — 7:30 — 8:00 p.m. at St. Simon's (see note 6 opposite)
Saturday — 8:15 — 9:00 a.m. at Swansea Town Hall

Speakers include:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| • Laurie Wells | — | case studies of terra cotta in the Toronto, Windsor and Ottawa areas |
| • Chris Borgal | — | hidden disasters in museums, churches and the Parliament Buildings |
| • Keith Blades | — | historic use of mortar at the Ste. Marie site, Midland |
| • Alan Seymour | — | Zion Primitive Methodist Church, North York, adaptive reuse of brick building |
| • James Ashby | — | revisiting the Ontario Legislature 5 years after the completion of restoration |
| • Tamara Anson-Cartwright | — | basic repairs for historic tombstones |
| • Bobby Watt | — | examples of work from the Guild Institute of Stone & Restoration Masonry |
| • Jon Harstone | — | interpretation of brickyards, quarries and kilns in the landscape |
| • Donald Badone | — | polychrome brickwork used in the 19th century at the Hamilton Brickworks |
| • John McDougall | — | recording and dismantling a sandstone, gothic revival residence |
| • Mark Plewman | — | demonstration of mortar mixing and use |
| • Ed Freeman | — | tour of the Don Valley Brick Works Heritage Park |

Advance Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ (day) _____ (evening) Fax: _____

Conference: @ \$55 per person, ACO members (includes Sat. lunch) No. of People: _____ \$ _____

@ \$70 per person, non-members (includes Sat. lunch) No. of People: _____ \$ _____

@ \$25 per person, full-time student (includes Sat. lunch) No. of People: _____ \$ _____

Dinner Sat. evening at Angelini's House @ \$40 (includes tip) cash bar available No. of People: _____ \$ _____

Sunday Walking Tour of Queen St. W. and Bus Tour @ \$30 (includes lunch) No. of People: _____ \$ _____

Note: GST not applicable

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make your cheque payable to The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and mail it along with this registration form to:

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
Suite 204, 10 Adelaide St. East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

You will receive a letter of confirmation with a map if your registration is received prior to April 1, 1998.

For additional information please call 905-885-6960 or 416-425-9298.

Conference Details

1. Conference Facilities

Swansea Town Hall Community Centre, 95 Lavinia Avenue (392-1954). Built in 1959, it served as the town hall of the independent village of Swansea until amalgamation with Toronto.

Coffee and snacks will be provided in the morning and afternoon. Saturday lunch is included in the registration fee. Advance registration is encouraged (see Registration Form, opposite).

2. Conference Speakers

This year the conference concentrates on masonry, including buildings, structures, mortars, masonry crafts and quarries. The ACO is very fortunate to have an excellent roster of speakers, experts in their fields who handle masonry problems on a national and international basis.

3. Dinner Saturday Evening

A highlight for Saturday evening will be dinner at Angelini's House, circa 1890 (David Roberts, architect), previously belonging to G.H. Gooderham, President of the Bank of Toronto. Cost will be \$40 (tip included) with a cash bar available. Time: 6:30 p.m. for 7:30 p.m. Reservations are required (see Registration Form, opposite).

4. Sunday Tour

The ACO has arranged a walking tour of Queen Street West, guided by Phillip H. Carter, architect and planner in Toronto, with a light lunch at his office in the area. From there we will board a bus for a tour of the Don Valley Brickworks. The cost will be \$30 including lunch. Reservations are required (see Registration Form, opposite).

5. Accommodations

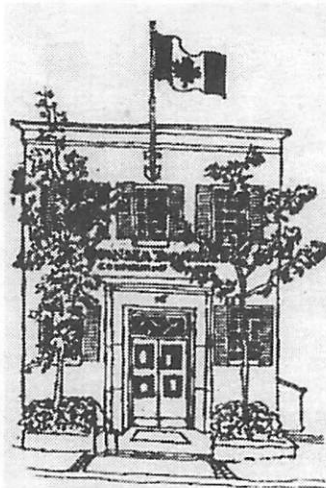
Toronto has a wide variety of accommodations. For the convenience of our members, the Toronto Branch has arranged special rates at local hotels, as follows. When booking your hotel please request the weekend rates. Note that the dates are in the high tourist season so prices will fluctuate and hotels are getting booked up quickly.

Valhalla Inn, situated near Hwy 427 and Bloor at 1 Valhalla Inn Road. Please ask for the weekend rate of \$89 plus taxes per night. Phone 416-239-2391.

Days Inn, 30 Carlton St. 416-977-2213, \$98 Single, ask for "Peter." Steps to the College subway.

Delta Chelsea, 33 Gerard Street W., 416-595-1975. \$139 seasonal rate as per "David."

Tourism Toronto, 416-203-2500, will give further suggestions depending on your requirements.



The Toronto Bed and Breakfast Association will arrange for accommodation on the subway line, within easy walking distances from either St. Simon the Apostle or the Swansea Town Hall. Phone 416-588-8800.

6. Annual General Meeting

To be held on Friday, April 17, 1998 at St. Simon the Apostle Anglican Parish Hall, 525 Bloor Street East. The location is easy to get to by subway, a block east of the Sherbourne subway station, on the south side. There is limited parking at the

church and metered parking on Bloor. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. sharp in the Parish Hall, and end at 9:15 p.m. Light snacks will be served.

The Honourable Isabel Bassett, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, has been invited to attend.

7. Annual Branch Presidents'/Advisory Board Meetings

Friday evening from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., meetings of both the Advisory Board and the Branch Presidents will take place in the Parish Hall of St. Simon's. Following the meetings there will be a light dinner served before the Annual Meeting. Branch Presidents and Advisory Board Members are asked to reserve for the dinner by calling 416-367-8075.

8. Mortar Demonstration

As part of the conference there will be an on-site demonstration of mortar mixing by Mark Plewman of Liner Rolpanit at a site to be determined.

TERRA COTTA IN BUFFALO

Quinte Region Branch members will remember longtime ACO members Alex and Jo Herlovitch when they were active in Trenton and area during the 1980s.

Now based in Niagara Falls, where Alex is deputy planning director, Alex and Jo volunteer for the Preservation Coalition of Erie County. The Coalition, which is centred on Buffalo, New York, raises architectural awareness through its tours, much like our ACO branches do.

The Coalition's August 16 tour last year—led by Alex—featured two exceptional sites: the all terra-cotta façade of the Calumet Building in downtown Buffalo and the Boston Valley Terra Cotta Plant located south of the city.

The Calumet Building, at West Chippewa and Franklin Streets, is a 1906 commercial building whose entire façade is covered in glazed cream and rust coloured terra cotta (over a steel frame). The building is named for its principal design motif, the calumet, a long, ornamented tobacco pipe used ceremonially by native people. Alex identified one weakness of historical terra-cotta systems—an otherwise durable product—by pointing to a pilaster which revealed the underlying iron bracket beneath a hollow terra-cotta block. These iron brackets, tying the terra-cotta blocks to the structure, would rust, and through the oxidation process cause the terra cotta to break away. Alex told us that in restorations today they are replaced with stainless steel fasteners.

From the Calumet Building, the tour continued south of Buffalo through the pretty village of Hamburg, and finally to the terra-cotta plant in Orchard Park. Tour guests were greeted by Gretchen Krouse, whose family had purchased the property in 1981. Their original intention was to run the facility as a pottery; but when approached in 1982 to assist in the restoration of the

famous, terra-cotta clad Guaranty Building in Buffalo (designed by Louis Sullivan), they started manufacturing terra cotta.

Now one of the largest manufacturers of architectural terra cotta in the United States, Boston Valley Terra Cotta is housed in a humble barn-like building where, the day of the tour, swallows flew in.

The plant, modest as it is, houses ten work areas: 1) the drafting office; 2) the mould-making department; 3) the section where fine clay and grog (fired clay) are mixed; 4) the spot where the mixed clay is pummelled into plaster moulds; 5) the room with drying tables and the sculpting finishing department; 6) the low-heat drying vaults; 7) the modelling area

for parts of terra-cotta pieces that cannot be moulded; 8) the glazing lab; 9) the tunnel kilns and the new addition to accommodate "car" kilns; and, 10) the shipping room.

Krouse, who had generously given up her free Saturday to guide the tour at the plant, treated us to a special inside glimpse of a modern-day terra-cotta factory. Her enthusiasm for the company's product and knowledge of preservation issues captivated everyone's interest. With Alex's earlier introduction to the historical development of terra cotta, we received the equivalent of a one-day survey course on the manufacture, use and restoration of terra cotta—but at a pace where all could enjoy.



Calumet Building in Buffalo Photo: Jo Herlovitch

[Editor's Note: Buffalo is an easy drive for most people in the western Lake Ontario area. Anyone interested in future tours in the Buffalo area should contact the Preservation Coalition, PO Box 768, Buffalo, NY 14213-0768 for a 1998 Tour Schedule.

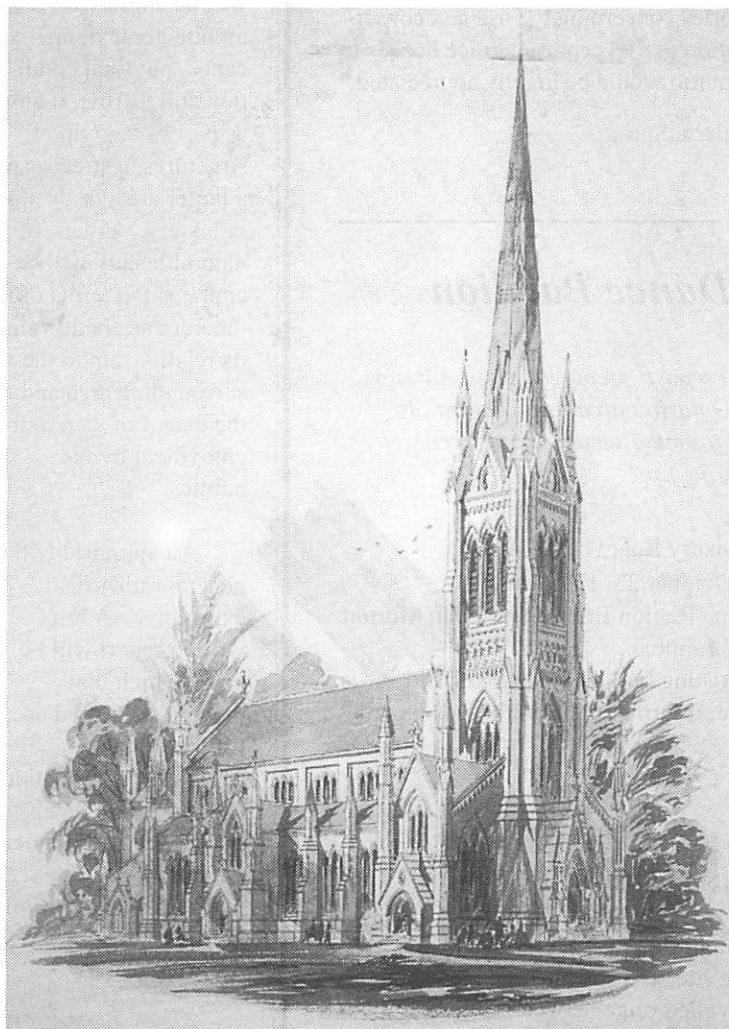
For information about terra cotta in Ontario, see Alec Keefer's book, *Terra Cotta: Artful Deceiver*, published by the ACO in 1990. Copies are available from the publications coordinator at the ACO Provincial Council office. Call (416) 367-8075 for price and details.]

ACO Executive Views Exhibit

The ACO Executive Committee meets from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the second Saturday of most months at the Ontario Heritage

Centre in downtown Toronto. While the Heritage Centre is an interesting building, members usually do not get a chance to see Toronto's other sights before heading home.

Following the January 10th meeting, Committee Members walked to the Market Gallery, a short distance from the Centre. The Market Gallery, a City of Toronto facility, is housed in St. Lawrence Market, specifically in the 1844-45 Council Chambers (which were incorporated into the 1904 market building). On exhibition was *St. James' [Cathedral] and Its Neighbours: Georgian Unity and Victorian Diversity*. Adding to their interest in the exhibit, members were delighted to know that Sharon Vattay, a member of the Hamilton Region ACO Executive, was curator for the show.



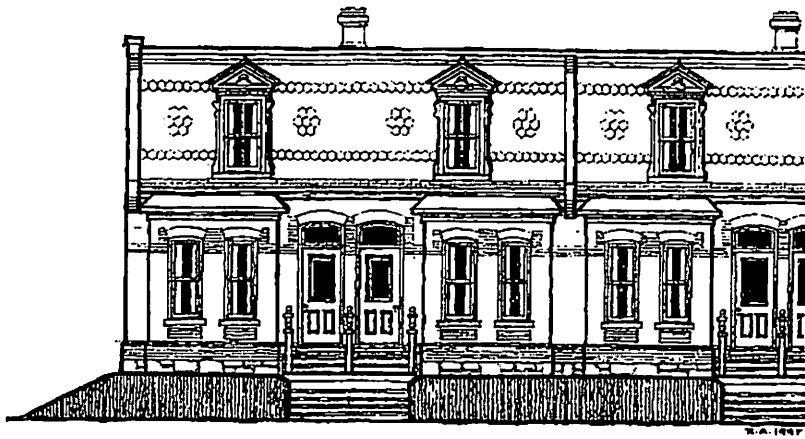
St. James' Cathedral, Watercolour Perspective.
Archives of Ontario

Cambridge Asked To Undertake Recording Case Study

Once a building has been demolished, any opportunity to record the building, through photographs and architectural measured drawings is lost. What can a municipality do to ensure that demolished buildings are remembered? Ross Anderson, a retired architect and member of Heritage Cambridge, has made an interesting proposal to the Cambridge Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. The proposal would establish procedures to record historic buildings in jeopardy or likely to be demolished. Mr. Anderson has suggested that the St. Andrews Terrace be used as a case study. This case study, along with other studies recently completed, would explore feasibility and cost and demonstrate the practicality of measuring and recording heritage structures. Architectural measured drawings would be required as a condition of granting a demolition permit.

This proposal has received the support of the LACAC and City Council. Council has been requested to allocate \$6,000, the equivalent of two heritage property restoration grants, in 1998 for the purpose of completing the case study. The final product would be shared with property owners, would be accessible to the public through the City Archives and could become part of exhibits designed to promote architectural excellence and heritage preservation.

The St. Andrews Terrace was constructed in 1885 and consists of ten privately owned units. Excellent design, interesting materials and continued occupation near the centre of historic Cambridge for over one hundred years, make these terrace houses a particularly rich subject for study. The building was designated in 1988 under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for historic and architectural merit. While there is no reason



St. Andrew's Terrace, Cambridge (1885)

Drawing by Ross Anderson

to believe this building will be demolished, there is some concern about the impact of time and weather on the integrity of the structure. One important aspect of the Anderson proposal will be to highlight those areas where remedial action should be taken and to identify appropriate steps to correct areas of deterioration in a way that would be practical and profitable for both the owners and the municipality.

Anyone wishing further information about the initiative can call Valerie Spring, LACAC Co-ordinator for the City of Cambridge, at (519) 740-4650 ext. 4580. Information from other communities concerning similar initiatives and particularly success stories concerning the use and conservation of 19th century terrace houses in Ontario would be greatly appreciated.

Valerie Spring

Evaluation of The Tweed Dance Pavilion

[Editor's note: Another example of the technical reports prepared by our Advisory Board, this report examines a rare feature from Ontario's architectural past. If readers know of other surviving dance pavilions from the same era as Tweed's, ACORN would be interested in hearing from you.]

Andrew Connidis, a member of the Advisory Board of the ACO, visited the Tweed Dance Pavilion on October 23, 1997 in the company of Dan Atkinson of the Quinte Region Branch and Evan Morton, Chairman of the Tweed Parks and Recreation Committee.

Architectural and structural reports of the existing building along with old photographs and documents were made available; information from these is incorporated in the report.

Setting

Located in a municipal park on the shore of Stoco Lake and clearly visible from the main road, the Tweed Dance Pavilion presents a very attractive sight.

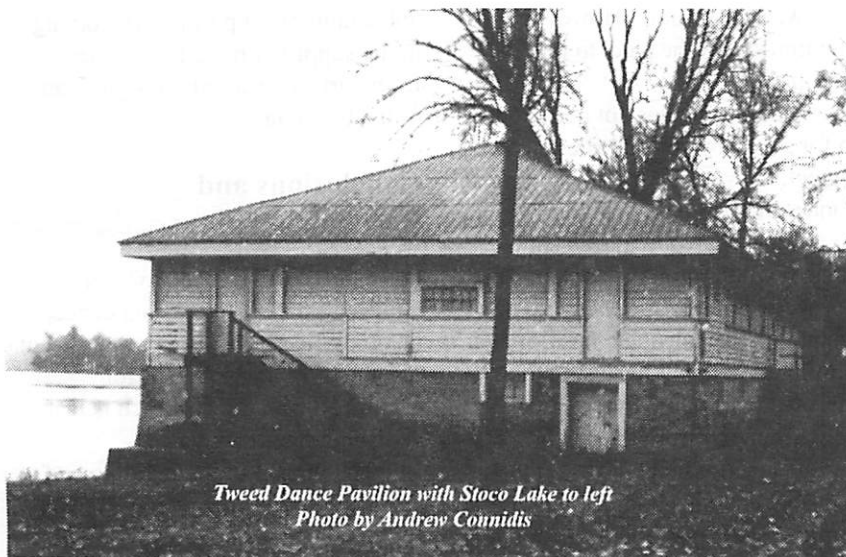
The park is well-cared for, well-treed and supported by washroom and other facilities. A motel abuts the northern edge of the site, and a residential area is on the south. Stoco Lake and Highway 37, a much-travelled route between Ottawa and Toronto during the summer months, form the eastern and western boundaries respectively.

The objectives of the Advisory Board of the ACO state, in part:

The Board will respond to requests for appraisal from within the Conservancy and from outside. ... An appraisal should be duly undertaken by the Conservancy where it becomes aware of a significant property that is vulnerable.

The Board will appraise built structures, their environment, and places of natural beauty in Ontario. A structure will be appraised for its architectural significance, physical condition and its role, if any, as part of a group of structures, a streetscape, a larger area, or its place in history. A place of natural beauty will be appraised in terms of its inherent aesthetic value, its relationship to the surrounding area and the extent of its possible enjoyment by the public.

An appraisal will be general rather than exhaustive. A brief written report will be made which may include suggested uses for the property, structural modifications and necessary repairs, but detailed recommendations respecting design or structure will not be given.



*Tweed Dance Pavilion with Stoco Lake to left
Photo by Andrew Connidis*

Historical Description

The Tweed Dance Pavilion was erected in 1929 to accommodate summer recreational activities, including dancing, social gatherings, indoor meetings, picnics and boating. Boats were stored in eight separate slips in the basement (or water level floor) of the building, and the other activities were conducted in the covered area above, on the main floor level.

Well-known dance bands of the 20s-30s era would circulate through the area during the warmer months, performing in rotation in Tweed and in four similar pavilions at: Beaver Lake, Erinsville; Crowe Lake, Marmora; River Trent, Campbellford; and Oak Lake, Stirling. Only the Tweed Pavilion remains today to mark this colourful social activity in this part of Ontario, but the pavilion is little used and is in a neglected state.

Architectural Description

The building is a simple one-storey frame building built on a poured concrete foundation, forming a basement slipway, which gives direct access to Stoco Lake for light craft used for hire for recreational purposes. There are eight slipways (now filled with sand), each approximately twelve feet wide and 30 feet long.

The access openings on the east side to Stoco Lake have been blocked off with concrete blocks for security purposes; this six-inch thick block wall is in danger of falling down due to a lack of ties back to the existing structure.

The main floor comprises an unobstructed area of approximately 30 by 85 feet surrounded by a six foot aisle; the aisle is separated from the open area by a series of structural columns and a low balustrade. The open area was used as the dance floor, access to which was controlled by openings in the balustrade, passage through which required a ticket. The dance floor is of hardwood tongue-

and-groove flooring on a plank sub-floor. This flooring is straight and true with no cupping or deformity and is in remarkably good condition though the surface finish is long gone. The remains of a stage, changing rooms and toilets exist at the north end.

The wood roof is supported by purlins, rafters and boarding on a series of wood trusses with steel bar tie reinforcement. In turn the wood trusses are supported by built-up wood beams and columns bearing on the concrete foundations, in part via steel beams. The clear height averages 15 feet below the cottage-type pitched roof.

The exterior walls contain wood shutters that lift upward and open inwards and are bolted open to the trusses above by simple bolts; the shutters are located between the structural columns above a continuous spandrel wall of wood stud construction. "Stable"-type doors in the spandrel walls give access via stairs from ground level some four to six feet below. Exterior single doors at the north end provide access to changing rooms. The exterior facing is shiplap boarding, and the roof finish is in metal sheet tiles.

Interior finish on wall and ceiling is natural or painted. There was never any insulation or heating system

Grant Announced for Town Centre Renewal Project

On Heritage Day, February 16, the Honourable Isabel Bassett, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, announced a grant of \$40,000 for the Ontario Town Centre Renewal Civic Educational Project.

This innovative project will be a joint initiative among key nonprofit heritage organizations — The Heritage Canada Foundation (Ontario Regional Office) and the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, in close association with the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Its purpose is to encourage and train local residents, business people, property owners and civic organizations in 20 communities across the province in becoming actively engaged in the preservation and management of the heritage assets within their town centres/downtowns.

This partnership also includes support from the McLean Foundation and from various areas of the private sector.

For more information, contact Stephan Lauer, Director-Ontario Region, Heritage Canada at 519-622-3036.

which may account for the very good condition generally—the building has remained surprisingly waterproof over the years—and the woodwork throughout is generally in good shape. Apart from the hardwood dance floor, the building has little architectural or structural originality except as an example of local construction of the era. However, the general proportions are very pleasant, and the overall impact of the building in its setting is significant.

Building Condition

During spring runoff, the level of the lake rises up the sloping shore and inundates the building site so that one-third of the basement may be temporarily submerged. No ice is present at time of writing, nor is the water pressure considerable, according to received information. This unusual feature does not seem to have caused serious erosion since a

breakwater was built. However, attention should be paid to this condition.

The building has not been kept up for several years and shows neglect. Nevertheless, the building's woodwork is in remarkably good condition. There are indeed some signs of wood rot in the roof area but this is certainly not extensive. The structure is not adequate for roof and floor loads and will need structural improvement for any future use. However, apart from the newly erected security block walls on the east side, there is no indication of imminent collapse, and the concrete walls seem to be accommodating the annual spring inundation.

Detailed architectural and structural examinations have been carried out, and should be reviewed in detail with regard to necessary costs of restoration and work required to satisfy current codes relative to building use. These costs may not be

unbearable if support is forthcoming in the supply of materials and labour from parties aware of the significance of the building.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Tweed Dance Pavilion represents a very interesting concept in an idyllic setting. It is a significant remainder of a past delightful pastime, the record of which is fast vanishing in our Province.

The impact of the building and its beautiful locale on tourism should be studied when developing a business plan for its return to active use.

Every effort should be made to restore the pavilion to its original condition, commensurate with current building codes.

Andrew Connidis

Andrew Connidis is a retired architect living in Godfrey, Ontario.

NOW AVAILABLE!!

Conserving Ontario's Landscapes: Proceedings of the 1997 ACO Conference

Edited by: Julia Beck, William Moffet and Katherine Smith

This brand-new, 80 page illustrated publication presents papers from the highly successful Belleville Conference.

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The Country General Store

The country general store has nearly gone from our rural areas, small towns and villages. Such a small-scale commercial venture can no longer compete with the economies of scale in the retail markets of today.

The country store may still be a vivid memory for some of us as it was not that long ago that in more isolated parts of the province they were still in operation. Old westerns and such TV shows as *Anne of Green Gables* and *Little House on the Prairie* keep this nostalgic image alive.

Many of these old stores still survive and are either in use as businesses, homes, or tourist attractions or they are sitting vacant. Their architecture can be simple and functional or one of embellishment and exuberance. They would follow the contemporary styles of their day. Often living quarters for the storekeeper were an integral part of the structure as the store's operation was a family affair.

The general store was a model of supply and demand economics. They first competed with and displaced the travelling peddler, and as communities grew the storekeepers would have to compete with other small general



Embro General Store, Oxford County
Photo: Jack Hedges

stores. Prices would be reasonable as long as customers had a convenient choice as to where they spent their money. The storekeeper would take advantage of the competition provided by travelling salesmen representing the large wholesale houses. From such simple beginnings would evolve such merchant princes as Timothy Eaton, Robert Simpson and Oxford County's own John Northway.

Success of a general store was not simply owing to good retail expertise but depended heavily on good community relations between storekeeper and his customers. The range

of goods sold represented the basic necessities of the farm and home. Everything from bulk foods, plow shears, footwear, clothing and tools would bring the entire family to the store making it an important social centre.

Sitting about a hot stove in winter or on those same captain chairs moved to the front verandah in the summer, the customers could meet to gossip or discuss issues of the day. Many a young citizen would get his or her first introduction to the strong religious and political loyalties of the time while standing at the side of parents engrossed in convincing argument. The store, like the church, was often the main source of worldly information and opinion and the storekeeper would have to navigate a neutral position among opposing views in order to keep the customers loyal.

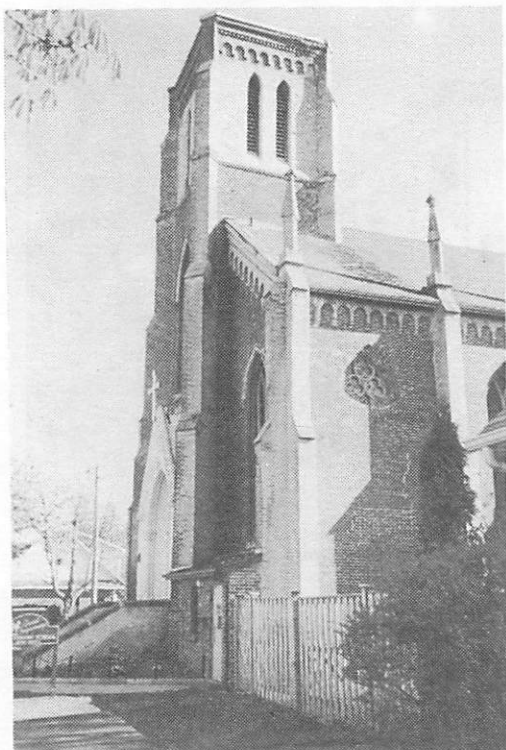
Many of these buildings stand silent now with no sign of the commercial and social activities that once made them so important to their communities. New business practices, economic realities, convenience of travel, and instant communication have eclipsed the general store, but there are still enough remnants of this old institution to remind us of the part they played in the development of our country.

Jack Hedges



Denfield Store, Middlesex County
(now relocated to Fanshawe Pioneer Village, London) Photo: Jack Hedges

Other Recently Completed Advisory Board Projects



William Moffet

*St. Arsenije Sremac Church, Whithy
Spencer Higgins and William Moffet*



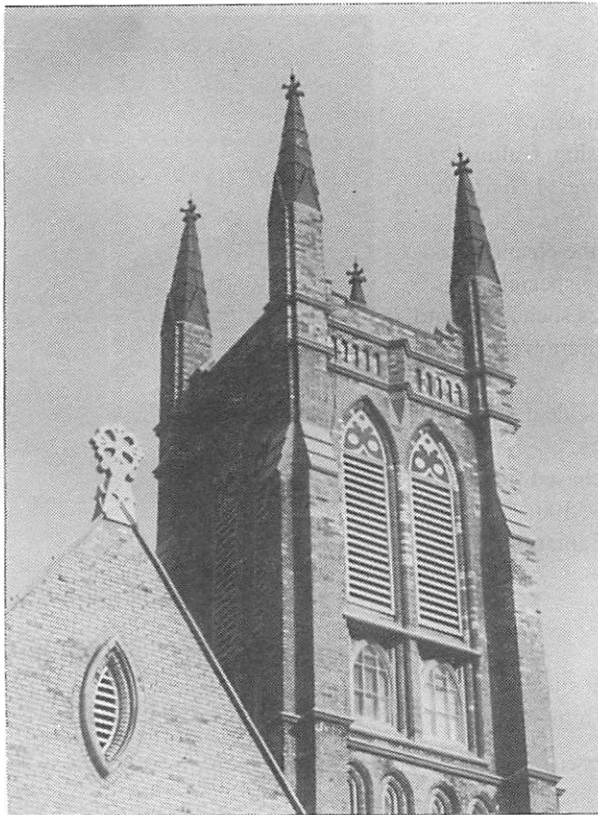
Denis Héroux

*Melville White Church, Caledon
Denis Héroux*



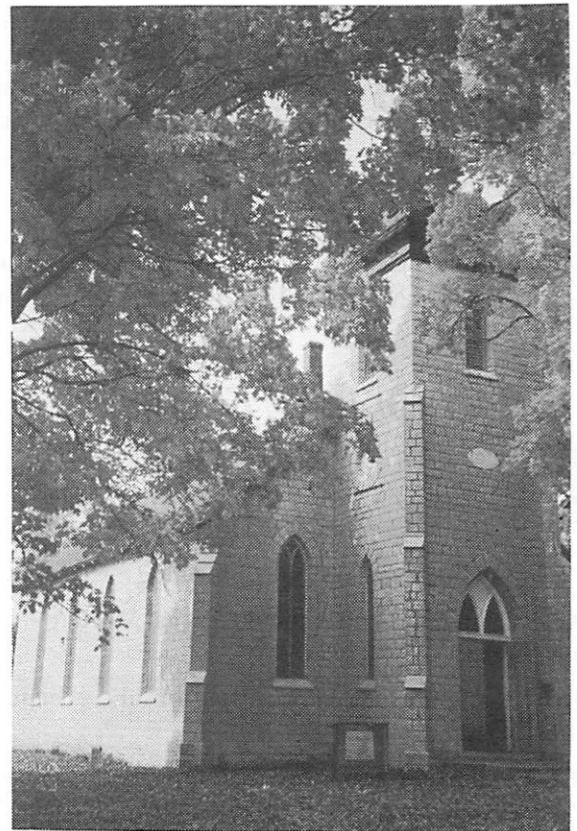
Ian McGillivray

*Grand Trunk Railway Station, Newmarket
Ian McGillivray*



John Rutledge

St. James Anglican Church, Stratford
John Rutledge and Spencer Higgins



André Scheinman

Wilton Church, Wilton
André Scheinman



David Eckler

J.J. Cain Building, Alliston
David Eckler

New Guide for Preserving Historic Cemeteries

Helping cemetery trustees who struggle to maintain their historic tombstones is the goal of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation's latest publication, *Landscapes of Memories A Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries: Repairing Tombstones*.

This fully illustrated guide offers step-by-step instruction on the cleaning and minor repair of historic monuments. The guide has been written by specialists in masonry conservation and provides technical information on topics such as how to correctly identify materials, how to get started on a cemetery restoration project, and the ten most common tombstone repairs.

Designed for easy use in the office or in the field, this guide is ideal for cemetery trustees, monument builders, conservators and volunteers.

Copies are available at a cost of \$10.00 each and can be purchased from Publications Ontario, 1-800-668-9938; or in Toronto at (416) 326-5300.

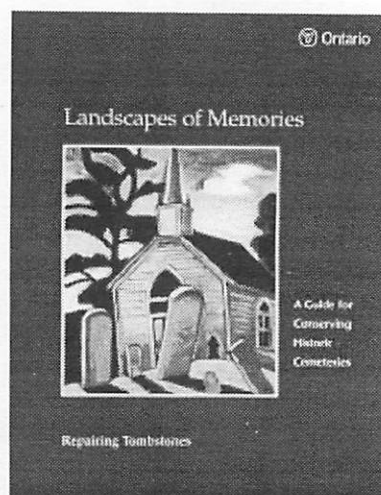
For further information on this publication you may contact Tamara Anson-Cartwright at the Ministry, email:

ansonct@mczcr.gov.on.ca

tel: (416) 314-7133.

Excerpts from the guide will also appear on the Ministry's internet site:

<http://www.gov.on.ca/MCZCR/english/culdiv/heritage/index.htm>



Verschoye Blake's The Ancestral Roof

The *Ancestral Roof: Domestic Architecture of Upper Canada* was published in 1963. Its authors were Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, or, as the title page states, "Marion MacRae in constant consultation with, and sometimes in spite of, Anthony Adamson." Almost 30 years later it remains the definitive reference book on pre-confederation houses in Ontario.

Rural Ontario was published in 1969. It was jointly authored by photographer Ralph Greenhill and historian Verschoye Benson Blake. Juxtaposed with Greenhill's evocative photographs are two essays written by Blake which are among the most authoritative pieces written about the early buildings erected in Ontario.

"Verse" Blake (1899-1971) was a founding member of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and was a member of the advisory committees for both Upper Canada Village and Black Creek Pioneer Village. For many

Coming Events

[Editor's note: this will be a regular feature of ACORN. If you have an event you wish to announce, please let us know. Deadline for next issue is May 15, 1997.]

ACO Provincial Council Meeting — Saturday, March 14 in Toronto.

ACO Conference and Annual General Meeting — April 17-19 in Toronto — see centrefold in this issue.

Heritage Cambridge Annual House Tour — Saturday, April 25 — see advertisement in this issue.

The Canadian Association of Professional Heritage Consultants (CAPHC) Annual General Meeting and Conference — Saturday, May 9 — "Dundurn Castle: A microcosm of conservation practice", at the Coach House, Dundurn Castle, Hamilton. Workshops, lunch, tours, reception. For information and registration package contact: James Gardiner, CAPHC Administrative Assistant Tel: (416) 534-1727 Fax: (416) 534-2147 E-mail: willings@istar.ca

London Region Branch 25th Annual Geranium Walk — Sunday, June 7 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Historic Woodfield. Information: (519) 645-2845.

South Bruce-Grey Fundraiser — Stonyground Gardens presents *A French Country Picnic*, June 13, in support of the restoration of Victoria Jubilee Hall. Garden viewing, 4:00 p.m. Performance by Arbor Oak Trio, 6:00 p.m. Buffet, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Stonyground is two kilometres west of Walkerton on Bruce County Road No. 2. Watch for signs. \$40.00 per person (GST not charged). Price includes a \$15.00 donation for which a tax receipt will be issued. For payment received by May 31, confirmation by mail will be given. Send your cheque please to: ACO – Victoria Jubilee Hall Project, Box 369, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0. Information, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at (519) 881-3546.

ACO Annual Fundraising Dinner and Eric Arthur Celebration — Saturday, November 14 in Toronto — details next issue.

years he worked in the former Historical Branch of the Ontario Department of Public Records and Archives. Among the books in the office of the current Cultural Programs Branch of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation is a copy of the *Ancestral Roof* stamped "Ontario Archives." What makes this copy interesting are a number of pencil notations written in the margins, two of which are signed "V.B.B." Presumably this copy of *The Ancestral Roof* was used by Verschoyle Benson Blake and the notations are his.

Presented below are a list of the notations which Blake made. The numbers in brackets refer to the pages on which the notation was written.

The Samuel Heck House which was built near Maitland is mentioned in the text and illustrated with a photograph. Blake crossed out the given name "Samuel" and pencilled in "Jacob" Heck House. [17-18]

Beneath the caption describing a mantel as located in the "White House, Millhaven", Blake wrote "Fairfield House". Beneath the neighbouring caption describing a mantel as located in the "White House, Williamstown", Blake wrote "Bethune-Thompson House – not Fairfield," suggesting that he may not have considered the name the "White House" to apply to the "Bethune-Thompson House." At the time *The Ancestral Roof* was published, these houses were privately owned. Both are now owned by the Province of Ontario: the Bethune-Thompson House by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Fairfield House by the St. Lawrence Parks Commission.

With reference to the comment that a fur trader was "often" also a United Empire Loyalist, Blake underlined the word "often" and added the comment "no" in the margin. [35]

Blake wrote "no" in the margin and underlined the words "Vermont Loyalist" which are used to describe Eliakim Barnum, builder of Grafton's famous Barnum House. [46]

Poplar Hall near Maitland is

described as built after the "War of 1812." In *Rural Ontario* Blake gives 1810-11 as its date of construction. [52]

Daniel McMartin, builder of the McMartin House in Perth, is described as a member of Loyalist family. Blake underlined "loyalist family" and wrote "no" in the margin. The McMartin House is now owned by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. [63]

In reference to Glencairn, a larger Greek Revival house built near Queenston, Blake corrected the name of the builder's first wife from the widow of John "Robinson," to the widow of John "Robertson." He also wrote in the margin: "The river façade of Glencairn is even more like the earlier house" sketched by Mrs. Simcoe. [127]

The date "1804" is given as the date that land at the north east corner of King and Bay Streets in Toronto was granted to Joseph Cawthra, an ancestor of Anthony Adamson. Blake crossed out "1804" and wrote in "1806". [133]

A comment is made in the text that, at the time that Upper Canada Village was being planned, "[t]he dull internal space division [of Crysler Hall] ruled out restoration as a house." Blake has written in the margin: "in the opinion of the authors; not all of the committee." Crysler Hall was a Greek Revival house which would have been inundated by the St. Lawrence Seaway had it not been moved to Upper Canada Village. Actually only the centre section was moved; the flanking wings were dismantled and reconstructed. [136]

A comment about Rodman Hall in St. Catharines states that, in its design, "[t]he Picturesque is relegated to the attic storey, where it emerges in late Elizabethan gable ends and dormers." Blake, who apparently was aware of the original veranda design, wrote in the margin: "The veranda on the east and south sides of Rodman Hall was decidedly romantic in feeling. This view shows the house in decay after division into apartments. Note line of veranda roof to left." [174]

A floor plan of the "pastor's house" at Upper Canada Village is illustrated. Blake added in the margin that what is shown is "not the original plan — Clear evidence was found that this house has a long stair hall, with a straight stairs and no study. A later alteration had produced the plan adopted in restoration. V.B.B." [236]

A floor plan showing the second floor plan of the Barnum House is also illustrated. Blake added in the margin: "This is *not* the original arrangement. Examination of the roof space showed the space marked X was an alcove and marks in the floor indicated a hearth as shown. V.V.B." [237]

An elevational drawing of a house labelled "Port Hope c. 1840 brick" is illustrated. Blake wrote beneath it: "The house is similar to ones dating 1845-59. The veranda may be later." [239]

The last of Blake's notations is the word "destroyed" written beside the veranda detail labelled "Port Hope c. 1835." [242]

And if I may add three notations of my own.

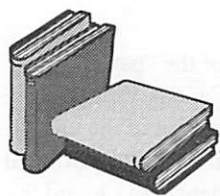
The photograph shows part of the main hall in Trafalgar Castle in Whitby and two of the original hall chairs. [177] These chairs were manufactured in Bowmanville in the furniture factory of G.P. Walters and Company.

There is an uncaptioned elevational drawing of a neo-classic doorway in chapter two. [64] This doorway is from a house at 161 King Street East in Bowmanville. It is a late example of its type as historical records indicate the house was built c. 1850.

There is an elevational drawing of a neo-classic mantel removed from a house in Moulinette at the time of the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway. This mantel has been installed in the United Counties Museum in Cornwall. [43]

Fred Cane

Fred Cane is an Architectural Conservation Officer with the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation.



Looking for Old Ontario:

Two Centuries of Landscape Change.

By Thomas F. McIlwraith.
Toronto: University of
Toronto Press, 1997. \$55.00
cloth; \$19.95 paper.

This is an evocative, ambitious and sometimes problematic contribution to the analysis of cultural landscapes. *Looking for Old Ontario* organizes and presents the results of Tom McIlwraith's thirty years of studying southern Ontario's ever-changing rural world. Through archival documentation and extensive on-site exploration, he has sought to learn more about Ontario through the traces of its people upon the land. Amply illustrated, *Looking for Old Ontario* is an informed and sprightly compilation of the evidences of the past garnered during uncounted wondrous journeys into this distinctive rural world.

The book's primary objective is to sharpen the reader's "cultural-landscape literacy"—the ability of the intelligent observer to extract meaning and significance from the evidence of one's day-to-day surroundings. It also seeks to explain certain distinctive aspects of rural Ontario—for example, the popularity of brick as a building material and the changing nature of vernacular design. Finally, the book provides an as-found record of key aspects of the province's rapidly dwindling rural cultural heritage.

While *Looking for Old Ontario* benefits from its roots in primary and secondary documentation, the text is more fully informed by decades of field work carried out across southern Ontario. (Researchers looking for insight into the distinctive landscapes north of the Canadian Shield, fully 90% of the province, will be largely

disappointed.) The author's interests focus on surviving cultural resources and a short introductory chapter outlines his approach to reading the extant landscape.

This key discussion leads to four sections which explore major influences on the rural landscape: vernacular design in its myriad manifestations, the essential interrelationship of natural and human history, the impact of surveys and the evidences of place names, and the lessons of building materials and methods. McIlwraith focuses on the layering of meaning in the physical evidence, the ways in which sequential changes in buildings, streetscapes and the land itself reflect shifts in human activities and intentions. Surveys and place names provide a framework—rigid but not wholly inflexible—within which this panorama of change takes place.

The second section of the book examines important aspects of the rural cultural landscape. The most common is treated first: the house. Here the author attempts to identify the basic characteristics of Ontario housing—primarily massing and age—and then posits a developmental model that takes into account functional changes made to residences over time, the influence of formal architectural styles, and adaptations to both function and style in the southern Ontario context over time.

His exploration of this broad subject leads to a discussion of "revealing details," which examines the individual elements of structures and landscapes that allow the observer to interpret the meaning and evolution of the whole. Further chapters deal with community buildings (including town halls, court houses, churches, schools and libraries), barns, fences, mills and other power sources, and graves and monuments.

These treatments of individual features draw attention to the need to look at the bigger picture. In his third section McIlwraith proceeds to examine the broad landscape, focusing on farms, roadsides, trans-

portation systems and townscapes. Concluding chapters speak to overarching themes of boundaries and decay and renewal. Here the author is able to treat the larger issues of change and continuity as interwoven elements in Ontario's cultural fabric.

Looking for Old Ontario is a delightful place to begin a study of just about any aspect of rural and small-town landscapes. Because of its treasure trove of information, readers will, no doubt, return to it time and again. But for generalists and specialists alike, the book should be used with care.

Though the notion of "cultural landscape" has been utilised since the 1920s, the detailed exploration of the concept began with the conservation movement of the 1980s. *Looking for Old Ontario* must therefore be understood as an often tentative contribution to an emerging field of study, with all the uncertainties and confusions pioneering work often entails.

Moreover, the author paints with a broad brush and, time and again, his analysis is open to question. In the area of 19th century official and vernacular architecture, McIlwraith sometimes doesn't quite "get it right." Often broad generalizations are offered without reference to a supporting source; sometimes, these are fundamentally misleading. No one who knows Ontario's town and township halls could possibly write that "town and township halls rarely have additions" (p. 166).

What is perhaps most charming about *Looking for Old Ontario* is the enthusiasm that the author brings to his subject and the joy that these journeys through "old Ontario" evoke. This is a book which anyone committed to the study and preservation of Ontario's rural landscapes will find both informative and intriguing.

Dana Johnson

Dana Johnson is an architectural historian with the Historical Services Branch of Parks Canada in Ottawa.

The Venice Charter— from Venice to Ontario

Many people ask us what we mean when we refer to the Venice Charter. The Venice Charter, also known as the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites, is a set of guiding principles for architectural conservation. As the name implies, it was adopted in Venice in 1964 at an international congress of conservation architects and technicians.

Adopted by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) the following year, the Venice Charter remains the standard for architectural conservation everywhere. While a number of other documents amplify the principles included in the Venice Charter, both professionals and volunteer practitioners look to the Venice Charter first for guidance in their conservation projects.

ICOMOS Canada has made the Venice Charter better known through its 1990 publication, *Preserving our Heritage: Catalogue of Charts and Other Guides* (now, unfortunately, out of print). We reprint the Venice Charter here for ACORN readers.

The Venice Charter

Imbued with a message from the past, the historic monuments of generations of people remain to the present day as living witnesses to their age-old traditions. People are becoming more and more conscious of the unity of human values and regard ancient monuments as a common heritage. The common responsibility to safeguard them for future generations is recognized. It is our duty to hand them on in the full richness of their authenticity.

It is essential that the principles guiding the preservation and restoration of ancient buildings should be agreed upon and be laid down on an international basis, with each country being responsible for applying the plan within the framework of its own culture and traditions.

By defining these basic principles for the first time, the Athens Charter of 1931 contributed towards the development of an extensive international movement which has assumed concrete form in national documents, in the work of ICOM and UNESCO and in the establishment by the latter of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property. Increasing awareness and critical study have been brought to bear on problems which have continually become more complex and varied; now the time has come to examine the Charter afresh in order to make a thorough study of the principles involved and to enlarge its scope in a new document.

Accordingly, the IInd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments which met in Venice from May 25th to 31st, 1964, approved the following text:

Definitions

Article 1. The concept of an historic monument embraces not only the single architectural work but also the urban or rural setting in which is found the evidence of a particular civilization, a significant development or an historic event. This applies not only to great works of art but also to more modest works of the past which have acquired cultural significance with the passing of time.

Article 2. The conservation and restoration of monuments must have recourse to all the sciences and techniques which can contribute to the study and safeguarding of the architectural heritage.

Article 3. The intention in conserving and restoring monuments is to safeguard them no less as works of art than as historical evidence.

Conservation

Article 4. It is essential to the conservation of monuments that they be maintained on a permanent basis.

Article 5. The conservation of monuments is always facilitated by making use of them for some socially

useful purpose. Such use is therefore desirable but it must not change the lay-out or decoration of the building. It is within these limits only that modifications demanded by a change of function should be envisaged and may be permitted.

Article 6. The conservation of a monument implies preserving a setting which is not out of scale. Wherever the traditional setting exists, it must be kept. No new construction, demolition or modification which would alter the relations of mass and colour must be allowed.

Article 7. A monument is inseparable from the history to which it bears witness and from the setting in which it is located. The moving of all or part of a monument cannot be allowed except where the safeguarding of that monument demands it or where it is justified by national or international interests of paramount importance.

Article 8. Items of sculpture, painting or decoration which form an integral part of a monument may only be removed from it if this is the sole means of ensuring their preservation.

Restoration

Article 9. The process of restoration is a highly specialized operation. Its aim is to preserve and reveal the aesthetic and historic value of the monument and is based on respect for original material and authentic documents. It must stop at the point where conjecture begins and in this case moreover any extra work which is indispensable must be distinct from the architectural composition and must bear a contemporary stamp. The restoration in any case must be preceded and followed by an archaeological and historical study of the monument.

Article 10. Where traditional techniques prove inadequate, the consolidation of a monument can be achieved by the use of any modern technique for conservation and construction, the efficacy of which has been shown by scientific data and proved by experience.

Article 11. The valid contributions of all periods to the building of a monument must be respected since unity of style is not the aim of a restoration. When a building includes the superimposed work of different periods, the revealing of the underlying state can only be justified in exceptional circumstances and when what is removed is of little interest and the material which is brought to light is of great historical, archaeological or aesthetic value, and its state of preservation good enough to justify the action. Evaluation of the importance of elements involved and the decision as to what may be destroyed cannot rest solely on the individual in charge of the work.

Article 12. Replacements of missing parts must integrate harmoniously with the original so that restoration does not falsify the artistic or historic evidence.

Article 13. Additions cannot be allowed except in so far as they do not detract from the interesting parts of the building, its traditional setting, the balance of its composition and its relation with its surroundings.

Historic Sites

Article 14. The sites of monuments must be the object of special care in order to safeguard their integrity and ensure that they are cleared and presented in a seemly manner. The work of conservation and restoration carried out in such places should be inspired by the principles set forth in the foregoing articles.

Excavations

Article 15. Excavations should be carried out in accordance with scientific standards and the recommendation defining international principles to be applied in the case of archaeological excavation adopted by UNESCO in 1956.

Ruins must be maintained and measures necessary for the permanent conservation and protection of architectural features and of objects discovered must be taken. Further-

more, every means must be taken to facilitate the understanding of the monument and to reveal it without ever distorting its meaning.

All reconstruction work should, however, be ruled out a priori. Only anastylosis, that is to say, the reassembling of existing but dismembered parts can be permitted. The material used for integration should always be recognizable and its use should be the least that will ensure the conservation of a monument and the reinstatement of its form.

Publication

Article 16. In all works of preservation, restoration or excavation, there should always be precise documentation in the form of analytical and critical reports, illustrated with drawings and photographs.

Every stage of the work of clearing, consolidation, rearrangement and integration, as well as technical and formal features identified during the course of the work, should be included. This record should be placed in the archives of a public institution and made available to research workers. It is recommended that the report be published.

Where There's a Will . . .

At the urging of two of our members who told us they had named the ACO in their wills, we offer a little information about bequests and other planned gifts to the Conservancy.

Bequests left to the ACO are legally secure, and the following wording is all that is necessary:

"I hereby give and bequeath to The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario the sum of . . ."

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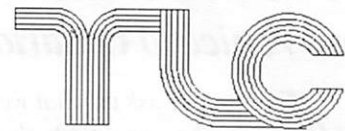
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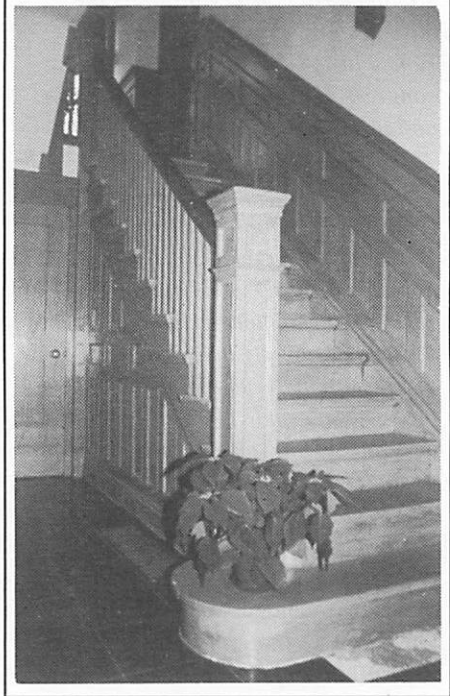
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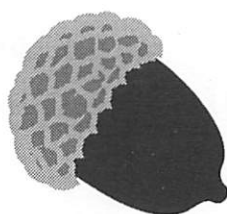
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